

....WITHOUT YOUR CONSENT!

PERA DIVESTMENT CAMPAIGN sponsored by the

Colorado Coalition Against Apartheid
1660 Lafayette Street /535 High
Denver, Colorado 80218
(303) 832-4508 3>2-6353

DID YOU KNOW THAT YOUR MONEY IS INVESTED IN SOUTH AFRICA?

If YOU are a Colorado taxpayer or a Colorado state employee who belongs to PERA, more than \$1,200,000,000 (that's 1 billion, 200 million dollars) of YOUR money is invested in companies that do business in South Africa.

WHAT IS PERA?

PERA is the Public Employee Retirement Association. Employees of the state, school districts, and municipalities of Colorado contribute to PERA in lieu of Social Security. The state, through YOUR tax dollar, contributes the employer's share.



Weenan Emergency Camp, Natal. Woman outside her house which was destroyed just before she and other tenant farmers were served with eviction notices.

WHO BELONGS TO PERA?

At the end of 1987, PERA reported a total of 133,018 retirees and vested and non-vested members. This includes:

- State employees, including state troopers (50,942)
- School teachers and school employees (72,957)
- Municipal employees (8,715)
- Judges (404)

HOW AM I INVOLVED AS A TAXPAYER?

YOUR tax dollars fund the salaries for those who belong to PERA and YOU also pay the employer's share of the contribution to PERA for each employee. In 1987, YOU, as the employer, contributed 285 million dollars to PERA, while employees contributed 198 million dollars.

Photo: Cedric Nunn





WHAT ARE PERA'S ASSETS AND HOW ARE THEY INVESTED?

According to a PERA equity holdings report dated October 31, 1988, PERA has a total of over 7 billion dollars invested in U.S. government obligations, corporate bonds, common stocks, guaranteed notes, mortgages, real estate, and municipal bonds. Of the nearly 2.4 billion dollar market value of PERA money invested in common stocks, \$644 million is invested in companies with ownership in South Africa. In addition, PERA invests \$598 million in companies with licensing, franchising, sales, and distribution agreements or loans in South Africa. This makes a total of \$1.242 billion invested in companies that do business with South Africa. And this doesn't include investments in corporate bonds or the S&P Index Fund.

Among the companies that PERA is invested in who do business with South Africa are: Unisys, Hewlett-Packard, Bristol Myers, Chevron, Coca Cola, DuPont, IBM, Mobil, Pfizer, United Technologies, and Borden.

WHAT CAN I DO IF I DON'T WANT MY MONEY INVESTED IN SOUTH AFRICA?

YOU can join the PERA divestment campaign. We're petitioning PERA to divest of all stock in companies doing business in South Africa. YOU can sign or carry one of the many petitions being circulated state-wide by unions, churches, civic organizations, PERA members, and concerned individuals. And, YOU can write a letter voicing your concerns to:

Terry L. Lantry PERA Chairman, Board of Trustees 1300 Logan Street Denver, Colorado 80203



WHAT IS DIVESTMENT?

Divestment is the process of gradually but purposefully selling all the stocks of companies that do any business with South Africa and reinvesting that money in the stock of South-Africa-free companies. Current guidelines define a company doing business in South Africa as having direct investments or franchise, licensing, distribution, or management agreements with South African entities.

WHY SHOULD PERA DIVEST?

First and foremost, PERA should divest because it is morally right. The Republic of South Africa is the only country in the world where racism is the law of the land. That law is apartheid.

PERA should also divest because North Americans are being called on by Bishop Desmond Tutu, black union leaders, and other black leaders in South Africa and in exile to isolate the government of South Africa by every means possible. They are passionate in calling for divestment, even though such calls are against South African law. Economic pressure, including sanctions and divestment, is one of the remaining peaceful means to ending apartheid.

Our government's policy of "constructive engagement" has failed. The racist South African government is further from majority rule than it was in 1980. The attempts of U.S. corporations to lessen the burden of apartheid, while well meaning, have also been a failure. Apartheid has not been dismantled; rather it has become considerably more repressive. Over 30,000 people have been detained in the last three years.

Divestment causes South Africa to be economically isolated in the international community. And, in combination with massive civil disobedience in South Africa, this economic isolation may help to bring liberation without the continued bloodshed that is presently going on in South Africa.

WHAT IS APARTHEID?

Pronounced "apart-hate," it is the system that separates the races in South Africa. Apartheid is:

- A system that keeps 4 million whites in power over 28 million blacks.
- A system that reserves the poorest 13% of the land for black "homelands," and reserves 87% of the land for whites.
- A system in which over 50% of children in the "homelands" will die of malnutrition before they reach the age of 5.
- A system that engages in widespread detention without trial, and detains children as young as 6 years old.
- A system that ignores the fact that infant mortality for blacks is 23 times higher than for whites.



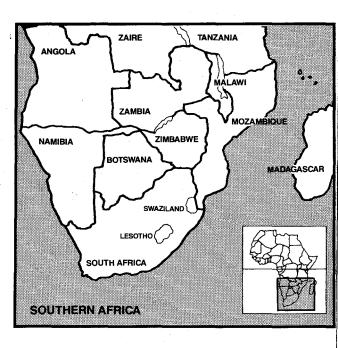
United Nations Photo

- A system that allows South Africa to export annually over \$1 billion dollars worth of agricultural products while an average of 136 black children die every day from the effects of malnutrition.
- A system that legislates the separation of families —
 prohibiting fathers and mothers who have jobs in or
 near the white cities from having their families live
 with them. The families are forced to live many hundreds of kilometers away in the homelands, where the
 wage earner is permitted an annual visit.

This is the immorality of apartheid.

WON'T DIVESTMENT HURT BLACK SOUTH AFRICANS?

That is what the South African government wants YOU to think, and it is important enough to the government to make it a punishable offense for any South African to advoate divestment. A very small percentage of the South African black majority benefit from the economic system, and their lives will be momentarily worse. But South African blacks have made the choice to suffer now as a concrete step towards the liberation of their country. We are morally obliged to honor that choice.



AREN'T U.S. CORPORATIONS A FORCE FOR POSITIVE CHANGE?

U.S. corporations have made positive contributions to the welfare of a small percentage of workers in South Africa. But apartheid has not been dismantled. The consensus among black leaders in South Africa is that divestment will force U.S. businesses to pull out of South Africa and that such isolation is one step towards ending the terrible suffering of the majority of the people under the racist South African government.

WILL THE PERA FUND BE HURT BY DIVESTMENT?

NO!! To use PERA's own words, there are many "equally promising" investments that do not do business in South Africa. Many of these corporations pulled out of South Africa because it is "the morally right thing to do," and others have been forced out of South Africa by boycotts or divestment campaigns. Many of the companies that PERA invests in currently have recently become South Africa-free. Others might say that they've pulled out because the apartheid laws make South Africa a risky investment.

PERA's own investment advisors offer alternative investments to individuals who prefer not to invest in South Africa. Most organizations and individuals who have divested have made substantial capital gains and have not found that their income decreases in the long term.

JOIN US IN THIS OPPOSITION TO APARTHEID WITH YOUR SIGNATURE ON A PETITION TODAY!!!

Or, better yet, carry a petition or become a contact person for your church, union, or civic organization. See the form found earlier in this brochure.



"We don't want our chains made more comfortable; we want them removed."

Bishop Tutu

WHO SUPPORTS THIS CAMPAIGN?

First, we hope YOU do. Second, a long list of leaders, churches, unions, and civic organizations around Colorado support this campaign:

PERA Campaign Endorsers

Sisters of Loretto Denver Peace & Justice Committee Bishop Roy Sano United Methodist Church Free South Africa Committee CU-Boulder Weld County Rainbow Coalition Colorado AFL-CIO Bishop William Frey Episcopal Diocese of Colorado Rocky Mountain Peace Center National Namibia Concerns Amalgamated Transit Workers -Local 1563 Church World Service/Crop The Greater East Denver Ministerial Alliance New Jewish Agenda Regis Groff, State Senator Pikes Peak Justice & Peace Commission, Colorado Springs Bill Roberts, Denver City Councilman Norman S. Early, Jr.

Denver District Attorney

Denver City Councilwoman

Mary DeGroot

Name:

Colorado Muslim Society Colorado National Lawvers Guild Justice & Peace Office Catholic Archdiocese of Denver Ramona Martinez Denver City Councilwoman Urban League of Metropolitan Denver Richard Castro Women's International League for Peace & Freedom, Greelev Colorado Peace Council United Church of Christ Rocky Mountain Conference American Friends Service Committee Students of Color Illiff School of Theology American Federation of State, County, & Municipal Employees Coalition of 100 Black Women Patricia Schroeder, U.S. Congresswoman Citizens Action for Peace Grand Junction Wellington Webb, Denver City Auditor

Colorado State Representative

Akbarali Thobhani, Director

Institute for Intercultural Studies
For a complete list of endorsers contact the Colorado Coalition
Against Apartheid.

Wilma Webb

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED IN THIS CAMPAIGN?

Address:	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	Zip:	
Phone:		
PERA member: Colorado Taxpayer:]	
Please check your interest:		
☐ Carry a petition ☐ Volunteer in some other way		
☐ Join the Coalition Against Apartheid		
☐ Be a contact person for (group name):		
Contribute \$		24
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COLORADO COALITION AGAINST APARTHEID

1660 LAFAYETTE STREET DENVER, COLORADO 80218 Or. call (303) 832-4508

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